



UNIVERSITATEA
BABEȘ-BOLYAI

Diasporic Voices : Tears, Silences, Laughter

(14th April - Online)

An academic conference hosted by the Phantasma Centre for Imagination Studies, the Centre for African Studies, and the Centre for Middle-Eastern and Mediterranean Studies at the University Babeș-Bolyai, Romania.

Since the turn of the millennium, the field of diaspora studies has seen an exponential growth in different national and linguistic contexts and the refining of theoretical tools and frameworks. In examining the diasporic imaginary, Ato Quayson stresses the role played by the dialectical relation between the homeland and the place of sojourn, the close connection between displacement and nostalgia for a lost time and space, and he adds that “[g]enealogical accounting involves questions of ancestry, ethnicity, tradition, and culture and provides a distinguishing past to the person or community” (2013, 151). While each of these features have been acknowledged and marked by the production of an increasing number of scholarly contributions, less scholarly attention has been paid to the nexus between the tragic and the comic in diasporic contexts.

Supported by the Phantasma Centre for Imagination Studies, the Centre for African Studies, and the Centre for Middle-Eastern and Mediterranean Studies, “Diasporic Voices : Tears, Silences, Laughter” is an online conference that aims to explore the notion of diaspora through the lens of literary studies and political science with a focus on the intertwining of the tragic and the comic.

We invite contributions (individual papers) dealing with (but not limited to):

Diasporic absence
Diasporic aesthetics
Diasporic amnesia
Diasporic laughter
Diasporic memory
Diasporic nostalgia
Diasporic resistance
Diasporic return
Diasporic silence
e-Diasporas

Please send a 250-word abstract for papers (15-20 minutes) as well as a 100-word author bio to the organisers laura.ilea@ubbcluj.ro, miscoiu.sergiu@ubbcluj.ro, marius.lazar@ubbcluj.ro, mbaya@uwo.ca by **March 1st 2022**.

Selected papers will be announced by 14th March 2022.

The languages of the conference are English and French.

